February 23, 2022

To: The Environment Committee

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify IN SUPPORT of the following bills:

SB 115 EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY

SB 117 TREE REMOVAL

SB 118 POLYSTYRENE

SB 120 PESTICIDES: CHLORPYRIFOS AND NEONICOTINOIDS

HB 5140 HORSESHOE CRABS

HB 5143 AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

SB 115 EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY

With the environmental impacts of mass consumerism, it's important that we recycle as much as possible. Connecticut has robust support for recycling among the general public so this would play into CT's already established recycling mindset.

SB 117 TREE REMOVAL

Oversight and transparency of tree removal affects everyone since most people enjoy CT state parks on a regular basis. It's important to keep as many trees and shrubs as possible and using an arborist will help ensure that improper tree removal (ie. removing trees that are not damaged or not a public hazard) doesn't happen.

SB 118 POLYSTYRENE

Polystyrene is terrible for the environment, reducing the use of it would greatly help eliminate environmental hazards.

SB 120 PESTICIDES: CHLORPYRIFOS AND NEONICOTINOIDS

Pesticides are terrible for the environment in many ways. They kill bees and other pollinators that are essential to the functioning of nature and to furthering our crops and food sources. Reducing pesticides however we can will help every species (including ours) on the planet.

HB 5140 HORSESHOE CRABS

Horseshoe crab populations are declining and CT needs to do its part to help protect the species. Birds and other animals rely on horseshoe crabs for food; with their numbers already dwindling, limiting the number caught will help ensure that the species does not become threatened.

HB 5143 AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

For years invasive aquatic species have been spotted in the waters in CT. These invasive aquatic species have taken over in many different areas, affecting the ecosystems and water quality. While it might be too late to stop their spread, we should at least try to limit it.

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